



From : Joe Dorward  
Sent : 12 December 2012  
To : Adam Watson  
Subject : NTS use of rack-felling by monstrous timber machines

Adam,

Thanks for keeping me up to date.

I do not think I will be up at this winter, but things may change.

I loved David's "we've become more aware of, is the need to plan much more carefully how we use harvesters" and hope I had something to do with that. The thing I'd most like to see is that MLE would get expert guidance from you and Sandy (or people like you) before they do anything. I think we have an opportunity here to manoeuvre them into inviting you both to be involved in the planning and implementation of all future operations on the estate.

David appeared to be genuinely concerned about the points I raised about damaging the wild quality, so there is a glimmer of hope there. It may be possible that he just doesn't know or understand what damage is being done to the soils by these machines, so I'll suggest treading lightly at first when you question him about what he knows about the rules and regulations in force in the areas they have damaged. I very much intend continuing to be a stick and (drive them to stop doing damage), but that gives you an opportunity to be a

carrot and (lead them away from doing damage). In the end we just want them to stop doing damage.

If you approach David with a thoughtfully crafted itemised list, I think there is a fair chance that you could get some kind of agreement from him to take your advice and to follow it.

I agree with everything you say below - particularly the point that you did not fully express that they are damaging soils not in OCF now, but will be in the future. One of the things NTS seems unable to do is to look very far into the future - in this instance they are damaging soils that are outside OCF now, but which they hope will be inside OCF in the future. This of course makes no sense, but I doubt they can see that.

Of course - it almost goes without saying that there are many options for thinning the plantations that do not involve machines, but only their short-term view and money prevents them from seeing them.

Perhaps you could help them explore other potential options.

Joe